

**FAMILY SPACE**

'I found our sofa at Furniture Village for a fraction of the price of more trendy retailers. I didn't want to spend a fortune with a toddler running around, and I love the bold colour'

**STYLE TIP**

'If you have little ones at home, consider opting for a darker coloured sofa'



**Make it**  
Get a gilded look with our how-to gold accessories  
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**MY HOME...**



**ABOUT ME** I'm Emilie Jacob, 33, and I'm an interiors blogger (stellaandthestars.net). I live with my husband Pete, and our 2 year-old daughter, Stella.

**MY HOME** A four-bedroom townhouse in east London, which we bought in 2009.

**WHEN I BOUGHT IT** The house was brand new and very white. The lack of period features was a shame, but it was a blank canvas for me to get my teeth into.

**AND NOW** It's a bit of a mad house! I would describe the decor as eclectic, fun and bold - every colour of the rainbow is featured somewhere inside and it's definitely not for the faint-hearted.

**STYLE TIP** It's so rare to find gorgeous pieces of furniture or accessories that you instantly love, so grab them while you can.

*'I love to mix DIFFERENT STYLES'*

Stylist at Home Emilie, 33, has added style and personality to her modern townhouse



**H**aving sold our loft in east London, my husband Peter and I wanted a 'grown-up' house for ourselves and our daughter Stella, 2. Then our estate agent mentioned a townhouse development nearby,' says Emilie. 'The area wasn't on our wishlist but we fell in love with it and made an offer that day.'

It's one of five townhouses and was completely brand new. What it lacks in period features, it makes up for in so many other ways - it has four good-sized bedrooms, beautiful views over a park, and eco-friendly technology that helps keep our bills low. We didn't have to do any major work as the kitchen, bathroom and flooring had all been fitted three months before we moved in. We changed some of the light fittings but aside from that, it was all cosmetic work, like painting and introducing furniture and accessories.

**Deciding on decor**

I tend to mix and match different styles or periods in my decorating choices and like to have a bit of fun! I buy stuff >>>

**CHALKING POINT**  
'The chalkboard wall in the hall is a great talking point when we have guests'

**SMOOTH MOVE**

'Moving into our home was made simple by not having to carry out any major works. The brand-new kitchen was ready when we arrived'



**STYLE TIP**

'Go for kitchen units without handles for a sleek, contemporary look'

**TIME TO PLAY**

'These stylish toy bags are great for storing Stella's bits and pieces when we have friends over'



» everywhere and anywhere and am a big fan of the high street; I have lots of fabulous pieces from Marks & Spencer and H&M Home that people always comment on. I also adore Abigail Ahern's style and her store is one of my favourites.

Every room in the house has a quirky vibe and something slightly different about it. It's become a little bit over the top, but that's how I like it! I find inspiration everywhere I look; in fashion, art exhibitions and sometimes even on TV programmes, where I'll see a great colour combination or styling trick that will give me an idea for my own home. I don't enjoy shopping for vintage items, as such, but I do like objects with a bit of history, that I can keep for years to come. Having moved countries several

times, I haven't always been able to keep all the lovely things I used to own but I don't really mind - I love finding new stuff.

**Space to work**

When I began to work from home, the most important thing to me was to create a space that reflected my personality and actually made me more productive. Where I used to work in the corporate world, I hated the bleak, boring offices. I found it so uninspiring and unmotivating not to have a nice office environment. I use my home office almost every day and so, aside from the essentials, such as a desk, computer and storage, I wanted everything else to make it fun and cosy.

I carefully chose artwork, lighting, seating and accessories to create a »

**3 style buys**



**JUST MY TYPE**  
Print, from £35, The Loft & Us



**LONG LEAD**  
Plumen red pendant light, £23.99, Dowsing & Reynolds



**ADD YOUR STAMP**  
Queen of Stamps cushion, £16, DaWanda

**DESIGNER LOOK**

'The marble effect dining table was a bargain from Dwell and the funky yellow seats are Pantone S chair reproductions'



**'CHOOSE BRIGHTLY COLOURED FURNITURE IN ROOMS THAT HAVE DARK WALLS, TO KEEP THE SPACE FEELING LIGHT'**



**COLOUR COMBO**

'I used Farrow & Ball's Down Pipe on the walls of my home office and styled up the space with neon accents'

**Stylists at Home**



**MAGGIE SAYS**  
'Bags to store toys in are a great idea and could be personalised or decorated by the children.'



**FRESH START**

'I added a personal touch to our brand-new bathroom with a statement shower curtain from H&M'

**'DON'T SHY AWAY FROM A STRONG IMAGE ON SHOWER CURTAINS – IT CAN REALLY BRING INTEREST TO A FUNCTIONAL BATHROOM'**

**Hit the shops**

Where to go and what to buy to get Emilie's style

- \* **OUTSIDE THE BOX** Check out independent retailers for quirky finds. Some of Emilie's favourites include Mineheart, MiaFleur and Hide & Seek, which have fabulous affordable accessories.
- \* **FIFTY SHADES** Paint a room in a chic shade of grey. Whether you want a darker finish or a dove grey, experiment with tester pots in different areas to see how the colour appears in all lights. We love Potters Wheel by Dulux paint mixing matt, £24.49 per 2.5ltr.
- \* **BLOOMING LOVELY** Keep your home looking fresh all year round with stylish artificial flowers. Try Bloom for a range of silk foliage.
- \* **BOLD & BRIGHT** Introduce pops of neon into your scheme for an on-trend look. Check out Oliver Bonas for neon accessories, such as glassware and candlesticks, to give your space an instant update.
- \* **OFF THE WALL** Personalise your home with wall art and prints, like Emilie has. Notonthehighstreet.com has hundreds of designs in a wide range of styles and colours.

**ROOM TO HIRE**

'We rent out this bedroom on AirBnB. It has an en-suite bathroom, so is very self-contained'

**Buy it**

Be a sleeping beauty with our pick of the best beds  
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**Stylists at Home**



**AMY SAYS**  
'I love the simplicity of the yellow bedside tables and the bedstead. The blue throw ties it all together.'

WORDS & STYLING: CASSIE PRYCE  
PHOTOGRAPHS: BRETT SYMES

» space I love spending time in. I was a little bit worried when the paint colour I'd chosen first went onto the wall, as it looked very dark, almost black, and I thought I'd made a huge mistake! Luckily, once the whole room was painted and the colour had dried, I started to breathe again and now the office is my favourite part of the house. The idea that dark colours make rooms look smaller is just a myth. It's all about getting the lighting right for the space. I finished off the room with the statement pink sofa, which was a bargain find at Ikea.

**Moving forward**

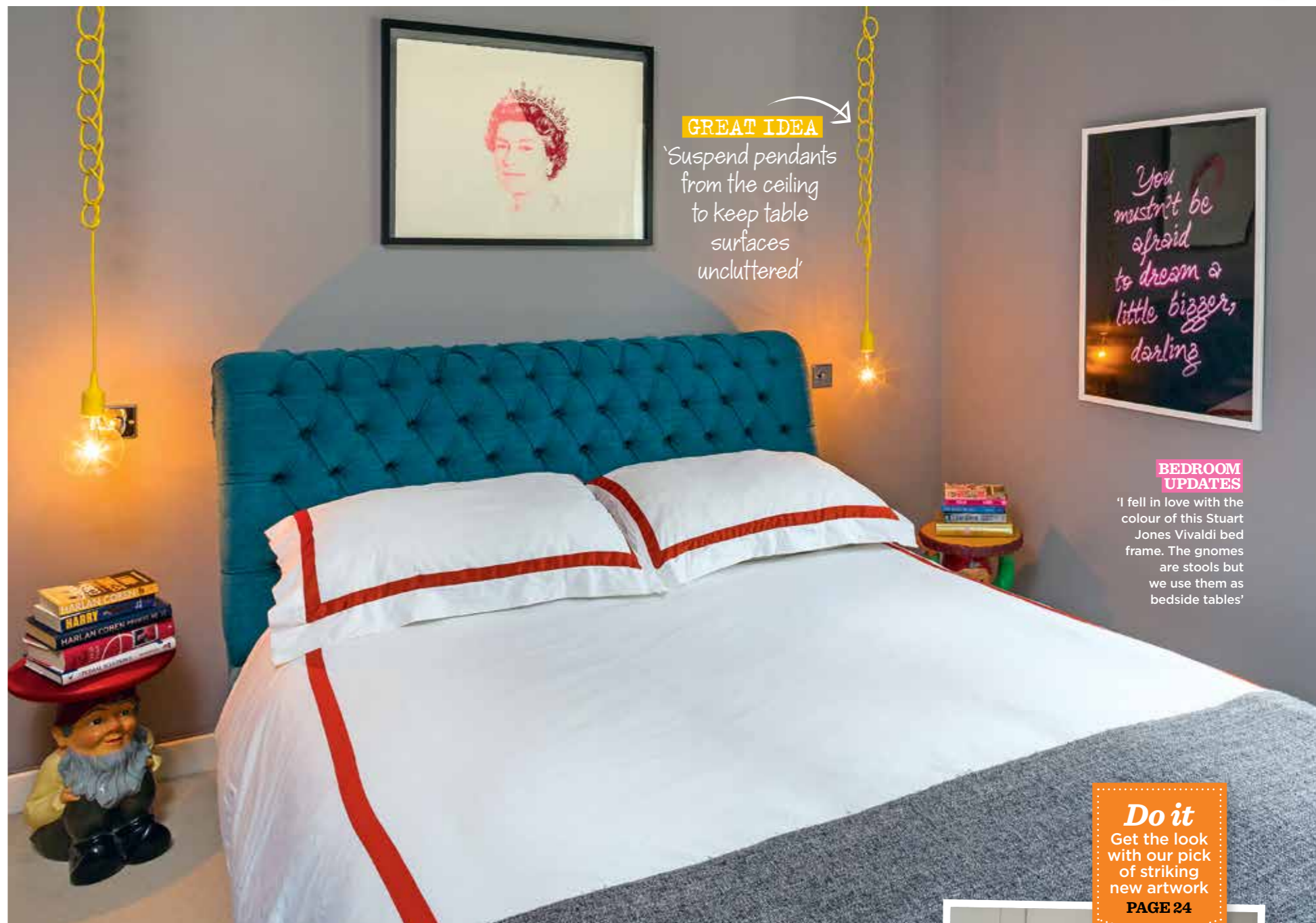
I adore our home, but I get house envy every time I open an interiors magazine, and I constantly want to change things

around! I think it's because I'm always browsing for new things for the blog that I get inspired all the time. My next project is to redecorate the guest bedroom and then update Stella's room from its current state as a nursery to a more grown-up girl's room when she gets older. I'm looking forward to changing it as she grows.

My husband and I absolutely love our house and when I'm out, I just can't wait to come home! This place has become our nest and we love hanging out here.'



Treat yourself or a friend by subscribing to **Style At Home** at [magazinesdirect.com/CLP5](http://magazinesdirect.com/CLP5) from only £14.99!



**GREAT IDEA**

'Suspend pendants from the ceiling to keep table surfaces uncluttered'

**BEDROOM UPDATES**

'I fell in love with the colour of this Stuart Jones Vivaldi bed frame. The gnomes are stools but we use them as bedside tables'

**Do it**

Get the look with our pick of striking new artwork  
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**IN THE FRAME**

'I've curated a gallery wall of colourful, quirky prints'

